Message

From: Hauchman, Fred [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F8BF9785F32048CCAD5F60B25A72017D-HAUCHMAN, FRED]
Sent: 9/19/2016 12:52:46 PM
To: Flowers, Lynn [Flowers.Lynn@epa.gov]; Dannel, Mimi [Dannel.Mimi@epa.gov]; Fegley, Robert [Fegley.Robert@epa.gov]; LaVay, Maggie [LaVay.Maggie@epa.gov]
Subject: Fwd: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>
Date: September 18, 2016 at 1:30:01 PM PDT
To: ORD-Exec-Council-Directors [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)] ORD-Exec-Council-Directors [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)], ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)], "Matthews, Lisa" <Matthews.Lisa@epa.gov>, "Benforado, Jay" <Benforado.Jay@epa.gov>, "Zambrana, Jose" <Zambrana.Jose@epa.gov>, "Gibbons, Dayna" <Gibbons.Dayna@epa.gov>, "Maloney, Kelsey" <Maloney.Kelsey@epa.gov>, "Maguire, Megan" <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>, "Fitzpatrick, Kacey" <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>, "Linnenbrink, Monica" <Linnenbrink.Monica@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Dear all

Please see Tom's weekly note to the Administrator below.

Liz

Liz Blackburn
Chief of Staff
EPA Office of Research and Development
202-564-2192
Cell [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
Date: September 18, 2016 at 12:23:44 PM PDT
To: "[redacted] [Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)]", "Meiburg, Stan" <Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov>, "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Distefano, Nichole" <DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov>, "Benenati, Frank" <benenati.frank@epa.gov>, "Vaught, Laura" <Vaught.Laura@epa.gov>, "Beauvais, Joel" <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>, "Garbow, Avi" <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>, "McCabe, Janet" <McCabe.Janet@epa.gov>, "Jones, Jim" <Jones.Jim@epa.gov>, "Pieh, Luseni" <Pieh.Luseni@epa.gov>, "Ragland, Micah" <Ragland.Micah@epa.gov>, "Flynn, Mike" <Flynn.Mike@epa.gov>,

"Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>, "Spalding, Curt" <Spalding.Curt@epa.gov>, "Curry, Ron" <Curry.Ron@epa.gov>, "Nishida, Jane" <Nishida.Jane@epa.gov>
Cc: "Kavlock, Robert" <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>, "Kadeli, Lek" <Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov>, "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>, "Deener, Kathleen" <Deener.Kathleen@epa.gov>, "Corona, Elizabeth" <Corona.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Robbins, Chris" <Robbins.Chris@epa.gov>, "Kim, Hyon" <Kim.Hyon@epa.gov>
Subject: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Administrator,

We continue to push forward to strengthen our public health connections. This week I am looking forward to participating in the ASTHO Environmental Health Policy Committee meeting where we will provide an update on EPA's collaboration with state health agencies. Pat Breysse from CDC, and FDA will also provide updates. I will highlight how EPA and states are working together to address water issues, wildfire smoke and air quality, and community health. We have been working with states through ASTHO and ECOS to provide input on the Wildfire Guide for public health officials and EPA's Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool.

Continuing with state outreach, I am looking forward to the ECOS Fall Meeting in Wheeling, WV next week. I will participate in a plenary roundtable discussion on *ORD Tools for Real-World Situations* at the. This session will profile how key EPA ORD tools are being used in states to address environmental and related public health challenges. Topics include air and water quality issues associated with wildfires and communities. I plan to highlight the work we've been doing with other federal agencies and the states to update the *Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials* and announce the availability of the initial version of EPA's Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool, an online tool that provides access to resources that can help communities learn more about their environmental issues and risks, compare their community's conditions with their county and state averages.

On September 21, I will co-chair the White House National Science and Technology Council Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Sustainability meeting, with Tammy Dickinson from OSTP and Kathryn Sullivan from NOAA. Topics include high-priority actions for the remainder of the Administration, a deeper-dive on water, and a discussion of transition planning.

Workshop on Accelerating the Pace of Chemical Risk Assessments
Last week's workshop on *Accelerating the Pace of Chemical Risk Assessments Workshop* was a great success. Jim Jones and I hosted, and the workshop participants included approximately 50 representatives from key international regulatory agencies and their science support

colleagues (e.g., Health Canada; Japan Ministry of Environment; European Food Safety Authority; European Chemical Agency, and Singapore's Agency for Science, Technology, and Research). Participants presented their experiences in applying new alternative methods (NAMs) for generating data on chemicals to inform hazard characterization and better protect public health. Workshop discussions focused on both scientific and regulatory issues in applying NAMs to risk assessments, and on exploring example case studies to help inform the role of NAMs with data poor chemicals, pesticides, endocrine disruptors, and for expanded use of exposure alternative data. Continued follow-up and collaboration with these international partners will occur through the production of these case studies. It was a really great meeting, and so rewarding to see the international respect for the Agency's work.

Tire Crumb Research Study Update

We continue to make progress on the tire crumb study. The U.S. Army is continuing its collection of tire crumb samples from synthetic turf fields across the U.S. Tire crumb samples were collected from Genan, Inc. in Texas. Liberty Tire Company will permit sample collection at its locations. The research team is working to finalize agreements with additional manufacturing facilities to collect tire crumb samples.

Subway Cleanup Operational Demonstration Underway

EPA and DHS continue to collaborate on the Underground Transport Restoration program, a multi-year program focused on developing capabilities to enhance the rapid return to service of underground transport systems after a biological incident. ORD, OLEM, and EPA Regions are leading the planning and execution of the Operational Technology Demonstration that will demonstrate sampling, decontamination and waste management methods for the subway station and tunnel environments. Site preparation at Fort AP Hill, VA began last week and the first demonstration of containment and decontamination methods began last weekend.

Field Scale Treatment of Water Contaminated with Perfluorinated Firefighting Foam

During the week of September 19th, ORD, working with the United States Air Force Institute of Technology (USAF-AFIT) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), will demonstrate treatment of water contaminated with perfluorinated firefighting foam at EPA's Water Security Test Bed at the Idaho National Laboratory. In addition to furthering EPA's interests in this important topic, USAF-AFIT and ECCC will use the results in their upcoming preparedness and response activities, including cleaning-up ground water contamination at bases and field demonstrations scheduled for 2017.

New Region 1 Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE)

On September 19, ORD, Region 1, and representatives of the Penobscot Nation will hold a kick-off meeting for a newly funded RARE project titled, "Investigation to Determine Efficacy of Utilizing Restored

Anadromous Fisheries Resulting from Dam Removal in Support of Tribal Sustenance and Sustainability." The results of this work will be incorporated into ORD's Tribal-Focused Environmental Risk and Sustainability Tool to compare the determined risks associated with fish consumption. The sustenance fishing practices and rights of the Penobscot Nation are currently threatened because of unsafe levels of dioxins, furans, PCBs, and mercury found in the tissue of resident fish species from the Penobscot Reservation. Information about contaminant levels in these fish is needed to guide the tribe about the safety of eating these fish.

ORD to Assist Region 6 in Flood Recovery Efforts, Baton Rouge, LA
Next week, ORD's Jason Berner will serve on a Mission Assignment as the sustainability advisor for EPA for the Baton Rouge flood recovery effort. His duties will include coordinating with Region 6 about resource needs identified at FEMA's Joint Field Operations in Baton Rouge, and reporting back updates on how EPA could provide resources to assist with flood recovery. Region 6 is particularly interested in how green infrastructure technical assistance can be used to assist FEMA in working with small communities impacted by floods.

Wildfire Smoke and Health Risk Communication Workshop
Next week ORD and OAQPS are hosting a Wildfire Smoke and Health Risk Communication Workshop in Research Triangle Park, NC. The goal of the workshop is to identify opportunities for research and technological solutions that will improve health-risk communication strategies, increase health-protective behaviors, and reduce the public-health burden during wildfire smoke episodes. Participants will include natural and social scientists, as well as community, state, and institutional stakeholders. The workshop will be a pilot for the integration of the social sciences into the problem formulation stage of research planning.

ORD to Host Vice Minister XU Nanping of China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
Vice Minister XU Nanping will join Bob Kavlock and Lek Ladeli on Monday, September 19th to discuss EPA and MOST's bilateral collaboration on environmental research. They will also plan for the 2017 biennial meeting of the Joint Working Group on Environmental Research and the renewal of the EPA-MOST Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU, originally signed in 2012, expires in 2017.

IRIS Assessment of Ammonia
On September 19, we expect to release the final IRIS assessment for Ammonia (Noncancer Inhalation). The largest and most significant use of ammonia is as a fertilizer in agriculture, which represents about 80% of commercially produced ammonia. This assessment addresses the potential noncancer human health effects from long-term inhalation exposure to ammonia. The final includes an estimate of the concentration of ammonia that is not likely to present harmful health effects if inhaled daily. The assessments of ammonia's carcinogenic potential and the noncancer health effects of ingested ammonia are not included, and will be the subject of a separate IRIS assessment.

IRIS Assessment of RDX

On September 23, we plan to release the draft IRIS assessment of Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX) for external peer review by the Science Advisory Board's Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee. RDX is used primarily as a military explosive and is not produced commercially. The draft includes an updated oral reference dose and a carcinogenicity assessment.

EPA Awarded GreenGov Presidential Sustainability Award

On September 12, the 2016 Good Neighbor Award recognized EPA for creating a toolkit that helps municipalities make environmentally sound decisions during demolitions of vacant homes. The number of vacant homes across the nation grew by 44 percent from 2000 to 2010. The toolkit helps avoid the significant environmental impact from demolishing these homes, and is changing the way communities deal with demolitions across the country. ORD's Bill Shuster worked with the team in Region on the toolkit, the Residential Demolition Bid Specification Development Tool.

Publications

Grantee Publication: STAR grantee Jason Rohr and his colleagues published an article, *The herbicide atrazine induces hyperactivity and compromises tadpole detection of predator chemical cues,* in the September 2016 issue of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry. In this study, researchers examined the effects of the common herbicide atrazine on the ability of Cuban tree frog tadpoles to detect and respond to chemical cues. Atrazine exposure was found to impair the ability of Cuban tree frog tadpoles to detect chemical cues from predators. In addition, the article revealed that exposure to ecologically relevant concentrations of atrazine caused hyperactivity in Cuban tree frog tadpoles. These results are similar to other studies that have shown that ecologically relevant concentrations of atrazine affect the motor activity of fish and amphibians. This study contributes to recent findings that atrazine is a chemical information disruptor of vertebrates.